

Public Safety Branch  
Public Safety Group  
Fire Series

**FIRE SUPPRESSION TECHNICIAN**

10/02 (JAS)

**General Summary**

Under general supervision, perform assigned fire suppression services of a technical nature in addition to firefighting and life saving activities such as fire prevention inspector, fire investigator, fire equipment operator, fire equipment mechanic, emergency management assistant, or training instructor.

**Typical Duties**

Respond to fire alarm and other emergency calls. Involves: Participate in firefighting and life saving activities. Render first aid.

Perform functions of fire prevention inspector as assigned. Involves: Inspect interiors and exteriors of commercial, industrial and other buildings to detect fire hazards, efficiency of fire protective equipment, and adequacy of fire escapes and exits. Inform and discuss conditions of building storage and equipment with owner or manager and make recommendations regarding unsafe conditions. Issue summons for uncorrected fire hazards from previous inspections and enforcing codes. Inspect gasoline distributors, delivery trucks and issue permits in compliance with fire safety regulations. Conduct fire prevention programs at public buildings and commercial businesses for employees, and school fire drills.

Perform functions of fire investigator as assigned. Involves: Investigate and document origins and causes of fires. Collect evidence and photograph fire scenes. Arrest and detain suspects involved in fire related criminal activity. Prepare and delivery court testimony in criminal cases. Participate in juvenile fire setters program as directed. Present public education programs related to arson. Provide support to fire prevention inspectors for Fire Prevention and Texas Insurance Code offenses that require arrest.

Perform functions of fire equipment operator as assigned. Involves: Drive fire engine to scene of fire or other emergencies. Ensure that firefighting equipment and tools are on apparatus and in working condition, and that water pump maintains constant water pressure. Operate aerial ladder controls. Inspect building.

Perform functions of fire equipment mechanic as assigned. Involves: Inspect, maintain, repair, and overhaul gasoline and diesel engines, pumps, generators, and auxiliary firefighting equipment. Adjust hydraulic systems, aerial and high pressure equipment. Test, repair and maintain fire extinguishers, self-contained breathing apparatus and resuscitators. Operate hose coupling and testing machine, and replace or repair defective section of high pressure fire hoses and pipe lines. Perform electric or acetylene welding. Order spare parts and recommend equipment.

Perform functions of emergency management assistant as assigned. Involves: Set up emergency operations center in response to a disaster or practice drill during absence of division head or as instructed which includes inspecting or otherwise verifying that equipment and facilities to be used are in good working condition, and that essential materials and supplies are in stock or obtain them from designated sources. Notify available qualified response personnel and organizations of incidences and circumstances. Travel to and visually inspect potential disaster sites and structures in response to complaints, and document and forward findings to other functionally accountable departments as necessary. Assist with training of response personnel and the public by conducting or participating in class sessions or exercises.

Perform functions of training instructor as assigned. Involves: Develop lesson plans. Conduct recruit and advanced academy and fire station sessions pertaining to subjects such as firefighting, medical procedures, hazardous materials, disaster response and defensive driving. Evaluate effectiveness of instructions.

Perform related work as required. Involves: Keep records and write reports. Take charge of company in absence of superior officer.

**Knowledge, Abilities and Skills**

- Considerable knowledge of fire prevention inspection methods and techniques.
- Good knowledge of operation, maintenance and repair of fire apparatus and related equipment.
- Good knowledge of fire hazards associated with various types of construction and storage of flammable materials and explosives.
- Good knowledge of laws and ordinances pertaining to fire prevention and the crime of arson.
- Good knowledge of departmental policies, rules and regulations

- Good knowledge of juvenile fire safety programs and practices.
- Good knowledge of radio procedures.
- Good knowledge of location of fire districts, stations, hydrants, and fire alarm equipment.
- Ability to make quick and accurate decisions in emergencies.
- Ability to determine the origin and cause of fires.
- Ability to identify and solve mechanical problems.
- Ability to follow safety procedures.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers and the public.
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Skill in safe operation and care of firefighting equipment and hand tools.
- Skill in safe operation and care of fire department motor vehicles in order to drive through city traffic under normal or emergency conditions.

**Other Job Characteristics**

- Subject to periods of prolonged and arduous work under adverse and hazardous conditions.

**Minimum Qualifications**

Education and Experience: Two and one half (2½) years of experience with the El Paso Fire Department in firefighter, fire prevention or fire medical positions that included two and one half (2½) years of state certified structural firefighting. (The time, from the date the individual graduated from the training academy for structural firefighting, will count for purposes of meeting the minimum requirement of two and one half (2½) years of state certified structural firefighting.)

Licenses and Certificates: Texas Class "C" Driver's License (with exemption for heavy firefighting vehicles). If assigned to Fire Prevention or Fire Investigations, must be certified as Texas Fire Inspector in compliance with Texas Commission on Fire Protection Standards of Education (TCFPSE). If assigned to Fire Investigations, must be licensed as Texas Peace Officer in compliance with Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE), as provided by state statutes, and be certified as Texas Fire Investigator in compliance with TCFPSE prior to assignment.

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Human Resources Director

Department Head